

first, to the United States, then to Mexico and Yucatan, and, finally, to South American countries. Each of these voyages he undertook without any governmental aid; each was an opportunity to him for the acquisition of several new languages; in fact, it was incomprehensible to him how a language could be difficult for anyone.

While in the United States Voeikov spent some time in Washington, where he made the acquaintance of the members of the recently organized national weather service, of Joseph Henry, and other scientific leaders. In 1882 he qualified as privat-docent at the University of St. Petersburg. Two years later he published his great work, "The Climates of the World," which brought him universal renown as soon as its translation into German, in 1887, made it available to the European scientific world. An English translation of this work from the Russian was at once prepared by Dr. Alexander Ziwet (Ann Arbor) under the encouragement and supervision of Prof. Cleveland Abbe, and revised by Voeikov in 1900, but no publisher has yet been found for the work. In 1885 he was appointed professor of physical geography at his university and, later, director of the meteorological observatory there. This permanent appointment to a professorship marked the beginning of a new series of publications, which at first revealed the meteorologist and then the ideal geographer. As examples, one may cite his study, in 1904, on the rôle of the Pacific Ocean in the world's affairs, a very remarkable article in the *Novoe Vremia* on the regeneration of Russia, and a French work, "Le Turkestan russe." Somewhat against his will, Voeikov had come to be a vegetarian, and he also contributed studies on vegetarianism.

Among his meteorological papers, those appearing in the *Meteorologische Zeitschrift* have had the most interest for American students; but they have numbered more than 100, and it is not necessary to give a full list of his works here. Many of them, perhaps some of the most important, deal with the relations between the temperatures of air, ground, oceans, and lakes. His meteorological work finally culminated in his handbook, "Meteorologia," a work of 719 pages, published in Russian in 1904, and the present leading meteorological text in that language.³

He had been one of the editors, and certainly the leading contributor to "Meteorologicheskii Věstnik," the meteorological monthly published by the Imperial Geographical Society. His many communications to geographical journals of various countries on most diverse subjects indicate the extent of his knowledge and the originality of his perception. The readers of the *REVIEW* will recall a number of his contributions to these pages.

His Russian biographer remarks that, in his private life as in his scientific career, Voeikov always showed a rare degree of modesty and was thoroughly unselfish. Very simple, almost Spartan in his tastes, he closely resembled his friend, the celebrated Russian chemist, Mendelief. While we did not all have an opportunity to enjoy the simplicity of his greeting, the rarity of his free and lively spirit, or the singular charm of his conversation, certainly we may join his French friends in regret at the loss of an illustrious scientist.

³ See notice of this work by S. Hanzlik in the *MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW*, December, 1904, 32:554.

THE CHINESE WEATHER BUREAU.

By CO-CHING CHU, A. M.

[Dated: Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., June 22, 1916.]

With the establishment of the Chinese Republic and the adoption of a constitution by the first Parliament in the years 1911 and 1912, a national weather bureau was officially instituted under the Board of Agriculture, with branch stations in various Provinces. Owing, however, to the lack of funds and men the organization has not progressed as we wished.

At present, there are two meteorological observatories in Peking. The one under the Board of Agriculture is located in the Central Agricultural Experimental Station. The other is called the "Central Meteorological Observatory" and belongs to the Board of Education. The latter observatory has already issued several bulletins, besides publishing a monthly magazine. The magazine had its start in the Fall of 1913, articles on astronomy, seismology, and earth magnetism have been published, as well as meteorological treatises. Each issue contains about 60,000 words (in Chinese).

In many other provinces besides Chili, of which Peking is the capital, Weather Bureau stations are maintained in connection with the Agricultural Experimental Stations, usually in the provincial capitals. The instruments used there are not of the first class, and in most cases have never been standardized. It is evident, then, that any work on forecasting is out of the question at the present stage of development of the governmental stations.

With the passing of Yuan's régime, we hope President Li and the new Parliament, which will be called together soon, will be more generous in their support of the weather bureau and other scientific enterprises.

NOTES.

Robert Frederick Stupart (b. Toronto, 1857), since 1894 director of the Meteorological Service of Canada, was among those honored by the King of England on the royal birthday celebration June 2, 1916. Sir Frederick is now a knight bachelor. (*Nature*, London, June —, 1916.)

Robert Henry Scott, M.A., D.Sc., Foreign Secretary of the Royal Meteorological Society, died at London, June 18, 1916 (b. Dublin, Jan. 28, 1833). Dr. Scott was Director of the Meteorological Office from 1867 to 1877 and Secretary of the Meteorological Council from 1877 to 1900.

He was the author of what is perhaps still the leading English textbook on Meteorology.

Dr. Scott's career is briefly outlined in this *REVIEW*, February, 1900, 28:68.¹ An appreciative notice by W. N. Shaw also appears in *Nature*, London, June 29, 1916, 97:365-6.

Prince Boris Borisovich Galitzin, Director of the Meteorological Service of Russia since 1913 (b. St. Petersburg, 1862), member of the Imperial Russian Academy of Sciences and Professor of Physics in the University of Petrograd, died May 4, 1916 (N.S., or Gregorian).¹

¹ Great Britain. Meteorological Office. Meteorological office circular. No. 1 [London], June 20, 1916. 8°.